

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 05666 201151Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 PM-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
INRE-00 SSO-00 OPR-02 NSCE-00 SP-02 SS-15 /057 W
-----060393 201157Z /14

O 201144Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4676
INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
HQ USAF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
HQ CINCSAC IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER IMMEDIATE
USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN GER IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
DET 2 306SW ZARAGOZA IMMEDIATE
16THAF TORREJON SP IMMEDIATE
306 SW RAMSTEIN IMMEDIATE
406 TFTW ZARAGOZA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 05666

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: US, SP, OCLR
SUBJECT: SPANISH REACTION TO ZAIRE AIRLIFT EMERGENCY
LANDINGS IN SPAIN

REF: MADRID 5515; STATE 126734

1. I ADVISED DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR NORTH AMERICAN
AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DURAN DURING
THE NIGHT OF MAY 19 OF THE EMERGENCY LANDING AT
TORREJON OF A C-141 WITH FOUR FRENCH NATIONALS ON IT.
HE UNDERSTOOD AND HIS ONLY REACTION WAS TO BE SURE THAT
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APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES HAD BEEN FOLLOWED.

2. THIS MORNING (MAY 20), HOWEVER, AFTER CONSULTING
WITH HIS SUPERIORS HE HAS ASKED THAT WHENEVER POSSIBLE,
SUCH EMERGENCY LANDINGS TAKE PLACE OUTSIDE OF SPAIN, AT
THE BASE OF ORIGIN OR IN ANOTHER COOPERATING COUNTRY.
THE REASON IS SPANISH CONCERN THAT ITS COOPERATION IN

THE MATTER COULD BE USED AGAINST IT IN ITS EFFORTS WITH AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO ASSURE THAT THE CANARIES ISSUE NOT BE TREATED AT THE FORTHCOMING KHARTOUM OAU SUMMIT. HE SAID THAT THE SAME REQUEST HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE OF THE FRENCH AND THE BELGIANS. I UNDERSTOOD HIS REQUEST TO COVER ANY PLANES IN THE ACT OF PARTICIPATING IN THE AIRLIFT WHETHER OR NOT FOREIGN NATIONALS ARE ON THEM.

3. I ASSURED HIM THAT I WOULD PASS ON THIS OFFICIAL SPANISH REQUEST TO U.S. AUTHORITIES CONCERNED AND I EXPECT THE REQUEST WOULD BE COMPLIED WITH WHEN POSSIBLE. I NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE MIGHT BE CASES WHEN IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO REACH AIRPORTS OUTSIDE OF SPAIN, AND THUS EMERGENCY LANDINGS IN SPAIN WOULD BE ESSENTIAL. DURAN RECOGNIZED THIS BUT ASKED THAT SUCH LANDINGS BE KEPT TO THE PRACTICAL MINIMUM.

4. I WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION THAT THE SPANISH REQUEST WILL BE HONORED TO THE EXTENT FEASIBLE. EATON

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